

BRAC IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY -- JUNE 19, 2007

The Meeting was called to order at 7:35 by John Carman.

Items Requiring Future Action

1. Receive information on other BRAC communities, including OEA video.
2. NNMC provide interim reports on the traffic study findings before release of draft EIS.
3. Receive briefing on Federal, State and County budget and appropriations processes.
4. Process map and chart of organizational relationship among various governmental agencies.
5. Briefing on TDM measures for federal facilities.
6. General briefing on Transportation Demand Management

Meeting Summary

- John introduced Phil Alperson as the new Montgomery County BRAC Coordinator.
- John reported that he and several County staff members attended a meeting of the staff transportation working group to get an update on the transportation work for the EIS. The consultants have begun preliminary analysis of the intersections in the vicinity of NNMC. John informed the committee that the transportation study currently underway by the Navy will incorporate additional intersection studies by local authorities, specifically that conditions at Connecticut Avenue and the Beltway will be analyzed by the Department of Public Works and M-NCPPC Transportation Division.
- On Monday June 18, John, Phil, Lisa Rother, Ollie Oliveria (on behalf of NNMC) and David Wade from Walter Reed gave an update to the County Council Committee on Planning, Housing and Economic Development (PHEID). John reported that the main item was the status of the EIS, and that Councilmember Berliner had expressed his strong interest in requesting the Navy to extend the planned 45-day public review and comment period by an additional 45 days. There was consensus among the BRAC Implementation Committee to support a request to extend the public comment period, and John said he would communicate this to the County Executive. The Committee also requested that the County be an active participant in the determination of the number of parking spaces that will be provided to serve the expanded operations at NNMC.
- John introduced Asuntha Chiang-Smith, the recently appointed Executive Director of Governor O'Malley's BRAC Subcabinet, chaired by Lieutenant Governor Brown. She explained that the Subcabinet is charged with providing an action plan to the Governor by December 1 to detail actions that the State will need to take to ensure smooth implementation of BRAC projects throughout the state. A draft action plan will be produced in November. She gave an overview of potential short and long-term state funding possibilities relating to Montgomery County BRAC-related projects, particularly in transportation infrastructure. Sam Minnitte of MDOT provided further details on these projects, including a potential grant from OEA for infrastructure studies along

Route 355. Asuntha said that the BRAC Subcabinet will be scheduling one of its meetings in Montgomery county, likely in October.

- Scott Peterson of WMATA gave a presentation about studies to build a new entrance to the Medical Center Metro station on the east side of Wisconsin Avenue. Such a project could incur construction costs of approximately \$14,500,000, with an additional 35% for design and engineering. Bringing the total project to as much as \$20,000,000. WMATA staff will refine the design and cost estimates over the next seven to nine months. There is currently no funding in the WMATA budget for improvements at this station.
- Mike Madden of the Maryland Transit Administration gave a presentation about ongoing studies for the Purple Line, which would run 16 miles, with approximately 20 stops, between downtown Bethesda and New Carrollton, via the Silver Spring Transit Center and the College Park campus of the University of Maryland. Studies include a no-build option, bus rapid transit (BRT) options, and light rail transit (LRT) options. Two routes between downtown Bethesda and Jones Mill Road are being considered: LRT along the Master Plan Georgetown Branch Right of Way, and BRT along Woodmont Avenue and Jones Bridge Road. Considerations include construction methods (at-grade vs. tunneling), cost, and funding. The Purpose and Outreach Study for M-NCPPC's Functional Master Plan for the Purple Line is now available at the M-NCPPC website.
- Representatives from the Action Committee for Transit (ACT) presented a proposal to encourage and make better use of transit at NIH and the Naval Hospital.
- A presentation by Mike Springer of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) on NRC's Transportation Demand Management Program was postponed for a future Committee meeting.
- The agenda for Committee meetings for July and August was discussed. It was suggested that July might be a good time to discuss strategies for evaluating the upcoming EIS, and that August might be a good time to discuss federal and state funding opportunities and schedules. It was noted that State officials will begin meeting in the fall with County officials to discuss funding priorities for the next fiscal year.
- John solicited citizen comments from the audience. None were offered.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30. The next meeting is scheduled for July 17, 2007, at 7:30 p.m.

Committee members in attendance, June 19, 2007:

Deborah Michaels

Jon Alterman

Pat Baptiste

John Carman

Paul Thaler

Ilaya Hopkins

Janet Maalof
Daniel Wheeland
Mohammad Siddique (Holmes)
Sam Minnitte
Melanie Wenger
Brian Gragnaloti
Stone Ridge representative
Chuck Floyd
Gordon Linton

Ex-officio:

Bill Bronrott
Brian Frosh
Rebecca Lord (Berliner)
Sue Tabach (Mikulski)
Commander Malanoski (NNMC)
Captain Zulick (NNMC)
Ollie Oliveria (NNMC)
David Wade (Walter Reed)